



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

April 8, 2005

News Release

50 MEXICAN NATIONALS DEPORTED BY ICE

14 Felons Among the Deported

MIAMI- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced that a 22-year-old man who served a one-year prison term for battery and resisting arrest was one of 50 Mexican nationals deported yesterday on a government flight for prisoners.

Francisco Caravantez-Moreno was found ineligible for any form of immigration relief and was ordered removed on Nov. 12, 1998. Moreno, who ignored the immigration judge's order, had been eluding deportation until officers with ICE's Fugitive Operation Task Force arrested him on Feb. 7th.

Of the 50 deported, 14 were felons convicted of crimes ranging from sexual abuse and narcotics possession to armed robbery.

"These deportations reflect ICE's continued commitment to removing those who have no legal right to remain in the country," said Michael Rozos, Florida's filed office director for detention and removal. "Those who choose to break our laws will be held accountable for their actions. We will continue to restore integrity to our nation's immigration system as mandated by law."

Aliens are deported aboard both commercial and government aircraft. The government's aircraft is run by the U.S. Marshal Service, and is called the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System (JPATS). JPATS is one of the largest transporters of prisoners in the world and handles hundreds of requests every day to move prisoners and criminal aliens nationally and internationally. There is an automatic 10-year bar against deported aliens from legally re-entering the U.S.

Illegal re-entry after deportation is a prosecutable felony offense that carries a possible 25-year prison sentence.

The Office of Detention and Removal (DRO) focuses on promoting public safety and national security by ensuring that all aliens who are subject to deportation are removed from the United States as expeditiously as possible

Last year, ICE removed a record setting 160,000 aliens; approximately 53 percent were criminal aliens. ICE's Florida field office has removed 1,617 aliens since the beginning of fiscal year 05; 862 were criminal aliens.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.